

Gaps in Women's Participation	Recommendations
1. Need to improve governments' understanding of the links between small arms control and issues of gender. Those links need to be reflected in legislation and other governmental processes.	
Lack of recognition of the link between SALW control and the Women, Peace & Security (WPS) resolutions.	Recognize links between SALW control and UNSCR 1325; include SALW control indicators in National Action Plans on WPS
BMS outcomes don't reach State agencies with authority to increase women's participation; weak coordination among agencies results in disconnected policies. (This also affects other POA themes, not just those on women.)	Include in PoA reporting template an indicator that BMS outcome documents, particularly items on women's representation / participation, have been communicated to Ministries of Police, Defense, Women, security sector, national commissions etc.
Lack of political will to institutionalize and implement commitments on women's participation.	- Recognize States that do implement these commitments; - Include parliamentarians in State delegations to POA meetings.
2. Women are underrepresented in small arms processes; and need to be full participants in these processes.	
Small number of women in decision-making processes in arms control which is seen as a male territory.	Include in PoA national reports – and in reporting template – indicators on women's leadership in SALW control. (BMS5 and BMS6 outcome documents provide the basis for such inclusion.)
SALW control is widely seen as the responsibility solely of the security sector.	Look beyond the security sector: - Include women's groups in National Commissions on SALW; - Support community gun control initiatives (usually women-led) through increased capacity building and funding support; - Include parliamentarians in State delegations to POA meetings.
Because of gender roles, stereotypes and symbols, women are a small minority of the security sector which dominates small arms control processes.	Reform recruitment policies and practice; adopt gender-fair requirements; develop and promote women security experts; consult with women's organizations.
National gun policies (in developed + developing countries) are usually drafted with no input from women's groups, and often in consultation with male-dominated groups opposed to strict regulation; and do not reflect the concerns of women, or the particular dangers to women posed by small arms.	- Include women's rights groups and experts fully in all gun policy reform processes; - Specifically seek the views of women when legislation or reforms are being drafted; - Specifically address gender-based violence in gun policy
DDR programs designed for male combatants don't recognize women who didn't carry guns; demobilization camps aren't designed to respond to needs of women—whether as combatants, non-combatants, or those accompanying male fighters. DDR programs rarely consider reproductive health, psycho-social or childcare support.	Include women in peace panels, peace processes and DDR planning, so that DDR provisions will be responsive to women's interests and needs.
Lack of mechanisms to ensure women's participation in peace /security processes, and especially SALW processes.	Require the inclusion of women and women's groups in peace processes.
3. These efforts require capacity building and additional funding support.	
Influence of masculine ideas of men as warriors /protectors; women as powerless, needing protection, lacking agency. Negative attitudes by both men and women towards women's participation in SALW control.	- Build women's technical capacities on small arms control. - Invest in gender and peace training in the security sector and for government officials working on these issues. - Support capacity-building including training on gender and WPS.
Lack of research on extent/impact of women's participation in SALW, other peace/security processes.	- Commit resources for research on this topic. - Conduct research and share the results.
Insufficient funds for efforts on gender dimensions of war, peace processes and DDR programs.	Increase funds for efforts to address the gender dimensions of these issues.